



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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Office of the
Commissioner

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Public Hearing – February 7, 2013
Public Safety and Security Committee

Testimony Submitted by Commissioner Jim Redeker
Department of Transportation

Proposed H.B. 5278 – An Act Authorizing Firefighters to Conduct Charitable Fundraising Boot Drives on State Highways.

While well-intentioned, the Department of Transportation has concerns with Proposed H.B. 5278 and offers the following comments.

Permits for these types of events have been denied in the past since due to concerns that the activity would create unsafe conditions, not be in the best interest of the motoring public and expose the state to potential liability.

Boot drive events have typically been requested at busy signalized intersections on state highways which, if allowed, could cause safety issues for both the collector and the motorist – particularly in situations where a driver stops on a green signal indication to make a donation. Similar concerns exist for this activity at an un-signalized intersection or along an isolated section of state highway.

The Department would be pleased to work with the bill's proponent and the Public Safety and Security Committee to address these concerns as the bill is further considered.

For further information or questions, please contact Pam Sucato, Legislative Program Manager for the Department of Transportation, at (860) 594-3013.